A Dooryard Garden Plant List Using Herbs from the Colonial Period

Borage will reseed. The leaves have a mild cucumber taste.	C/M	⇔ blue ℮ gray-green	1–2 ft.	0	Α	borage (bee bread) Borago officinalis	8
Betony was considered a "cure-all" plant.	X	🕏 purple	3 ft.	0	Р	betony (wood betony, bishopswort) Stachys officinalis	7
Monarda is in the mint family and can be invasive.	C/M/H	☆ lavender- pink	3-4 ft.	0	P	bee balm (wild bergamot) Monarda fistulosa	ф
The American Indians introduced this herb to the early colonists.	C/M/H	₽ red	3–4 ft.	0	P	bee balm (bergamot, Oswego tea) Monarda didyma	6a
Used for mattress stuffing, as a dye plant, and to curdle milk.	C/H	s bright yellow	1–3 ft.	0	Р	bedstraw (lady's bedstraw) Galium verum	5
Pinch off flowers to prolong harvest.	C/M	white (insignificant)	1–2 ft.	0	Α	basil (sweet basil) Ocimum basilicum	4
Seeds and leaves have a licorice flavor.	C/M	\$ white	1–2 ft.	0	Α	anise Pimpinella anisum	ယ
Parts used: leaves, seeds, stems and roots.	C/M	greenish- white	4-6 ft. +		В	angelica Angelica archangelica	2
Warning! All parts of this plant are toxic.	X	violet-blue dark green	2-4 ft.	0	P	aconite (monk's hood) Aconitum Napellus	,
COLONIAL USE & Additional Comments	COLON	COLOR	неіснт	LIGHT	CLASS	NAME, Common & Botanical	#

Key: A = annual
B = biennial
P = perennial
TP = tender perennial

> **\$** = flower **€** = leaf/foliage

C = culinary
M = medicinal
H = household

The N.E. Unit of the HSA 5/13/95

# 9 9 10 11 11 12 13	NAME, Common & Botanical calendula (pot marigold) Calendula officinalis caraway Carum carni catmint (catnep, catnip) Nepeta cataria chamomile Chamaemelum nobile (see note-) chaste tree Vitex agnus-castus chervil Anthriscus cerefolium	CLASS A B P P A		HEIGHT 18 in. 1-2 ft. 2-3 ft. 4-6 in. 3-12 ft. 8-12 in.		COLOR color or yellow white lavender lavender white with yellow centers lilac lilac white white	COLONIAL USE & Additional Comments are orange or C/M/H Single or double-flowered plants bloom until frost; will self-seed. are white C/M Caraway seed and leaves were used; the taproot was eaten as a vegetable. are lavender gray-green C/M/H Long blooming plants are attractive to bees, cats, and people. are lilac M A shrubby, deciduous tree with changed from Anthemis nobilis. bright gray-green C/M Chervil is sometimes confused with sweet cicely (#59).
	efolium	Α	•	8–12 in.	white bright green	cn	
chives Allium schoenoprasum	10prasum	טי	0	8–12 in.	\$ lavender		C/M
clary sage	Salvia sclarea	B or P	0	2–5 ft.	pale blue- lavender		C/M
"clove pinks Di	"clove pinks" (border carnations) Dianthus Caryophyllus	Р	0	1–2 ft.	rose-pink blue-green	Б ,,	C/H
comfrey (knitbone) Symphyti	knitbone) Symphytum officinale	P	0	3 ft.	blue or pink		M

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36 h	35 lo	34 le	33 la	32 II	31 h	30 h	29 h	28 h	# Z
lungwort Pulmonaria officinalis	lovage Levisticum officinale	lemon balm <i>Melissa officinalis</i>	lavender Lavandula angustifolia also known as L. officinalis	Iris – Florentine (orris) Iris germanica var. Florentina alba	hyssop Hyssopus officinalis	house leeks ("hens & chickens") Sempervivum tectorum	hollyhock – single flowered Alcea rosea	herb robert (bloodwort) Geranium robertianum	NAME, Common & Botanical
ָ פּי	ים	P	P	P	ď	P	B or P	A or B	CLASS
•	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	•	LIGHT
8–12 in.	3–5 ft. +	2–3 ft.	1–2 ft.	2 ft.	1–2 ft.	3–4 in.	6–7 ft.	12 in.	HEIGHT
pinkish blue green with silver/white	🕏 yellow 👻 dark green	white white	✿ lavender ❤ gray-green	\$ white with yellow	🕏 blue	🕏 pinkish 👻 light green	pink, red, or white	pinkred tinged	COLOR
X	C/M/H	C/M/H	H/M	Н	C/M/H	H/M	H/M	X	COLO
The spotted leaves were thought to resemble a lung; used for pulmonary ailments.	The stems and leaves taste like celery; lovage resembles a giant-sized celery.	The leaves have a lemony scent and taste; attractive to bees.	Lavender was grown primarily for its scent. Most herbs were grown for multiple purpose & use.	The dried root (called "orris root") smells like sweet violets; a "fixative."	A popular "strewing herb." (Fragrant herbs were scattered and strewn about to freshen the air).	"Hens and chickens" were planted on rooftops for "protection" against lightning.	Hollyhocks are generally grown as a biennial; attractive to bees.	"Bloodwort" was used to staunch bleeding.	COLONIAL USE & Additional Comments

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45	44	43	42	41	40	39	38	37	#
rosemary Rosmarinus officinalis	rose campion (mullein pink) Lychnis coronaria	pennyroyal – English <i>Mentha Pulegium</i>	pennyroyal – American Hedeoma pulegioides	parsley – flat leaf (Italian Parsley) Petroselinum crispum Var. latifolium	nasturtium (Indian Cress) Tropaeolum majus	mint – spearmint <i>Mentha spicata</i>	mint – peppermint <i>Mentha x piperita</i>	madder Rubia tinctorum	NAME, Common & Botanical
TP	P	ק	A	B (note→)	Α	P	ъ	P	CLASS
10	0	0	10	0	0	0)	0	0	LIGHT
1–3 ft.	3 ft.	6–12 in.	1 ft.	1 ft.	1 ft.	1–2 ft.	2–3 ft.	2–4 ft. (prostrate habit)	HEIGHT
🕏 pale blue	✿ magenta ❤ silver-gray	⇔ lilac	🕏 lilac-blue	🕏 greenish- yellow	🕏 orange, red or yellow	✿ lavender❤ dark green	purplish stems	greenish white	COLOR
C/M/H	M	, M/H	H/W	C/M	C/H	C/M/H	C/M/H	Н	COLO
Rosemary was an important herb in the colonial garden. Grown in pots, rosemary can be wintered indoors.	Used to treat kidney stones; a diuretic.	Both pennyroyals should be given boundaries; used as insect repellents. Warning! Do not take internally; toxic.	The American Indians introduced American pennyroyal to the colonists. Caution: Avoid if pregnant.	Note: generally grown as an annual. Flat leaf parsley has more flavor.	The peppery tasting leaves were added to salads more than a century ago.	Note: All mints should be given boundaries; rampant growth habit.	Mint tea was a common remedy for nausea.	A dye plant (the roots produce a red dye). The botanical name reflects this.	COLONIAL USE & Additional Comments

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54	53	52	51	50	49	48	47	46	#
senna (wild senna) Cassia marilandica	savory – winter Satureja montana	savory – summer Satureja hortensis	santolina – gray (lavender cotton) Santolina chamaecyparissus	sage – common Salvia officinalis	rue (herb of grace) Ruta graveolens	Rose, Gallica – 'Rosa Mundi' Rosa gallica versicolor	Rose, Gallica – the Apothecary's Rose Rosa gallica officinalis	Rose, Damask – York & Lancaster Rosa damascena versicolor	NAME, Common & Botanical
P	P	Α	P	P	·P	P	P	P	CLASS
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	LIGHT
3–6 ft.	6–12 in.	12–18 in.	1–2 ft.	2 ft.	1–3 ft.	4–5 ft.	3 ft.	5 ft.	HEIGHT
\$ yellow	see above whiny green	white or pale pink	yellow gray-green	✿ blue-purple ❤ gray-green	🕏 yellow 👻 blue-green	rose pink & white striped	🕏 deep pink	white & pink on same bush	COLOR
M/H	C/M	C/M	Н	C/M/H	C/M/H	C/M/H	C/M/H	C/M/H	COLO
The leaves were used as a purgative (laxative). Also a dye plant.	The savories were used medicinally as diuretics & antiflatulents.	The leaves added a peppery flavor to soups, stews & stuffings; savory is sometimes called the "bean herb."	The button-shaped flowers were dried for winter bouquets; a dye plant. (Santolina needs a winter mulch.)	Sage was reputed to improve the memory and aid digestion.	Warning! Exposure to rue may cause severe skin irritation.	An offspring of the Apothecary's Rose; named for "Fair Rosamund," mistress of King Henry II.	A dooryard garden would generally include the Apothecary's Rose; considered an important medicinal plant.	Historians have documented the significance of this rose (named for the factions involved in the War of the Roses).	COLONIAL USE & Additional Comments

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teasel – Fuller's (wild teasel) Dipsacus fullonum B O	5-6 ft.	• .	: avender	
tarragon (French tarragon) Artemisia Dracunculus Var. sativa	2 ft.		€ bluish- green	
Tanacetum vulgare	3-4 ft.		ft. 🕏 yellow	
sweet woodruff Galium odoratum P	8–12 in.	Þ.	in. ಿ 🕏 white	
sweet cicely (sweet chervil) P Myrrhis odorata	2–3 ft.	∺,	t. \$ white	
southernwood ("old man") Artemisia abrotanum	4 + ft.		t. 🕏 yellow 👻 gray–green	
sorrel (garden sorrel) Rumex acetosa	1–2 ft.	H,	t. \$ greenish yellow	
soapwort (bouncing bet) Saponaria officinalis	1–2 ft.		ft. 🏚 pinkish- white	,
Sium Sisarum	3 ft.	• •	: white	
NAME, Common & Botanical CLASS LIGHT	HEIGHT	HT	HT COLOR	

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69	68	67	66	65	64	#
yarrow – yellow Achillea millefolium	woad (dyer's woad) <i>Isatis tinctoria</i>	Johnny-jump-ups ("heart's ease") A or B Viola tri-color	violets, viola sp. (sweet violets) Viola odorata	valerian (garden heliotrope) Valeriana officinalis	thyme – "mother of thyme" Thymus serpyllum	NAME, Common & Botanical
P	В	A or B	P	P	P	CLASS
0	0	0	•	0)	0	LIGHT
2–3 ft.	4–5 ft.	4–6 in.	6–8 in.	3–5 ft.	1–3 in.	HEIGHT
🕏 yellow 👻 gray-green	🕏 yellow 👻 blue-green	• purple, yellow & white	purple, also white, pink	🕏 pale pink	☆ lavender	COLOR
M/H	H	C/H	C/M/H	M/H	C/M/H	COLO
The leaves were used medicinally in "tisanes" or herbal teas. The flowers provided "delight" freshly cut or dried.	An important dye plant; the leaves were used as a blue dye source before indigo became available.	Flowers freely reseed; plants will rebloom if cut back.	C/M/H Sweet smelling violets were used in perfumes & sachets. Violets can become invasive (give boundaries).	Valerian was used for its tranquilizing effects. Attractive to cats.	C/M/H Was thought to be an effective remedy for headaches, stomachaches and nightmares (especially after imbibing).	COLONIAL USE & Additional Comments

members of the New England Unit of the Herb Society of America. A Dooryard Garden, Using Herbs from the Colonial Period was researched and written by Rhonda Haavisto & Jane O'Sullivan,